



United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2: New Jersey, New York
Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
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NEWS

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EPA RECOGNIZES NEWARK; PRESENTS ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AWARD

NEW YORK -- The City of Newark's was awarded an Environmental Quality Award by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for its efforts to improve environmental quality. This award is the highest honor Region 2 confers on the public.

"It is a distinct pleasure to recognize the accomplishments of the City of Newark in the field of recycling," said Regional Administrator Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff. "I applaud the City's efforts and urge them to remain committed to making a difference in the environment."

In the past four years, Newark has become a leader among municipalities on the East Coast especially in the area of recycling. Newark has achieved an effective recycling rate of over 50% of its municipal solid waste. Most of the recycling tonnage was performed by 100 commercial recycling firms located in Newark. In addition, Newark began a major city-wide curbside recycling program resulting in dramatically increased recycling collections. Some of the innovative aspects of the program are a forceful youth education program, a strong public/private partnership and a partial ban on the use of plastic packaging in retail food establishments. Newark's program demonstrates effectiveness of a recycling program designed to meet the needs of a large, urban center.

In addition, Newark received the Administrator's Award for its outstanding efforts in promoting recycling in an urban area.

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- 2 -

A ceremony was held in Washington, D.C. on May 15, 1991 at EPA's headquarters to honor Newark and other programs.

The awards ceremony, held at the U.S. Court of International Trade on Friday, April 26, was highlighted by an address by Lewis Crampton, Associate Administrator for Communications and Public Affairs at EPA's Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

EPA Region 2 solicits nominations for its Environmental Quality Awards Program from business, industry, educational institutions, government agencies, community and civic groups, individuals and the media. A total of 23 Environmental Quality Awards were given by the Region this year.

Those interested in submitting nominations for 1992 should contact Teresa Ippolito of the Office of External Programs, (212) 264-2980, in December of 1991.

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